

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicants:** Hong-Kong Andy Choo et al.    **Examiner:** Unassigned  
**Serial No.:** To Be Assigned    **Art Unit:** Unassigned  
**Filed:** Herewith    **Docket:** 11445Z  
**For:** NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES    **Dated:** December 1, 2000  
COMPRISING A NEOCENTROMERE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In connection with the filing of the above-identified application, kindly enter the following preliminary amendment.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

**Page 1, line 4,** after the title of the invention, please insert the following text:

**--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION**

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/078,294, filed on May 13, 1998.--

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Dated: December 1, 2000

  
Michelle Mustafa

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**Please amend the claims as follows:**

3. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim [3] 2,  
wherein the chromosome is a human chromosome.

**REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully submit that the foregoing amendment does not introduce  
new matter. It is firmly believed that the subject application is in condition for allowance,  
which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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